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HOUSE MEMORIAL 22

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Debbie A. Rodella and Nick L. Salazar

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CIPRIANO FREDERICO VIGIL, PH.D.

WHEREAS, Cipriano Frederico Vigil, Ph.D., is the most important performer of traditional Nuevomexicano folk music in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries; and

WHEREAS, his life's work spans half a century of playing, composing and singing ritual, social and dance music; and

WHEREAS, Cipriano was born and raised in the small village of Chamisal, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, he received a baccalaureate degree in music education and a master's degree in bilingual education from New Mexico highlands university; and

WHEREAS, in Mexico, Cipriano was awarded a scholarship by the Mexican government to the national institute of fine arts

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1 where, in 1988, he obtained a second master's degree in
2 ethnomusicology; and

3 WHEREAS, Cipriano began his career as a professor at
4 northern New Mexico college in 1980, was named the chairperson
5 of the fine arts department and completed his doctorate in
6 ethnomusicology in 1988 and retired from the college in 2004;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, because of his love for music and teaching,
9 Cipriano continues to work at northern New Mexico college as a
10 part-time instructor in folk music; and

11 WHEREAS, renowned as a composer, Cipriano works in
12 traditional genres such as romance, *décima*, cuando and corrido;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, he has performed traditional New Mexican folk
15 music as well as *la nueva canción*, new songs in a style that
16 originated in South America; and

17 WHEREAS, his early background and training in music
18 instilled in Cipriano a passion for preserving and
19 disseminating the folk music of northern New Mexico; and

20 WHEREAS, Cipriano has presented thousands of performances
21 and workshops, including to elementary classrooms in New
22 Mexico, cowboy poetry gatherings in Elko, Nevada, and the
23 Smithsonian institution in Washington, D.C.; and

24 WHEREAS, Cipriano has produced a four-volume set of
25 traditional New Mexican folk music, a self-published collection

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1 of his own compositions, a manuscript of sixty-seven of his
2 compositions for violin and guitar and compositions for
3 theatrical performances and films; and

4 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico press is currently
5 publishing a book Cipriano wrote about the folklore of New
6 Mexico, to be accompanied by twenty-one compact discs; and

7 WHEREAS, in his many presentations to local schools,
8 Cipriano brings part of his collection of more than three
9 hundred musical instruments from around the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Cipriano has been recognized by the New Mexico
11 endowment for the humanities and the Smithsonian institution;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Cipriano has been honored as a living treasure,
14 received the New Mexico governor's award in 1994 and, in 2017,
15 was recognized by Governor Susana Martinez for his significant
16 musical contributions and advancements made to the cultural
17 education, identity and pride in the lives of New Mexico's
18 children and many communities; and

19 WHEREAS, Cipriano's son, Cipriano Pablo Vigil, and his
20 daughter, Felicita Vigil Pinon, have performed with him in
21 concerts for over twenty-five years, and recently, his
22 granddaughter, Marisol Vigil, and his grandsons, Matzael Pinon
23 and Alonzo Vigil, have been performing with Cipriano as well;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Cipriano

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1 Frederico Vigil, Ph.D., be recognized and honored for his
2 significant contributions to creating and preserving New Mexico
3 folk music; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
5 transmitted to Cipriano Frederico Vigil, Ph.D.